

Jennifer Vanderpool
Hysterical Paradise

November 1 - December 6

[Bandini Art](#)

2635 S. Fairfax Avenue, Culver City

(310) 837-6230 www.bandiniart.com

Opening Reception: Saturday, November 1, 6-8pm

T H E

Hysterical Paradise

Jennifer Vanderpool's *Hysterical Paradise*, her second solo show at Bandini Art, is an indoor garden installation, rendered in extreme Technicolor, that expresses the arc from allure to entrapment, seduction to demise. Expressed in another way, the potential polarizing that may occur between one's ideals and realities is exemplified in regard to both the form and the content in this show. The conceptual compost heaps in this garden are collections of the artist's past, and from these rich and fetid heaps of refuse and memory emerge a topography of flowers made out of plastic bags, duct tape, and bubble wrap. These flowers bloom amidst towers of bedazzled Starbucks cup holders and to-go containers that extrude viscous trails laden with glittery treasures and shiny beads. In short, though the artist's playful and vivid compositions serve as pleasant distractions to the daunting and hideous realities of wanton consumption, a darker truth lurks in the bushes of this Fool's Paradise. Indeed, that truth looms large as the piles of carelessly discarded remnants threaten to overtake us. The artist is proposing that maybe the capacity for renewal lies in transforming the fruition of our errors into the wisdom of a new mythology. *Hysterical Paradise* engages Vanderpool's traditional hyperbolic display, and those familiar with her work will immediately recognize the exuberant and slightly sinister simulacra fantasylands. But this time, instead of channeling her favorite domesticated female archetype for an over-the-top demonstration of "women's work," the artist, for this show at least, has decided to conjure an Earth Mother rather than Betty Crocker to express the struggle with conflicting desires.



Jennifer Vanderpool, *Hysterical Paradise*, an interdisciplinary large-scale two- and three-dimensional indoor garden installation with sound and animation, work in progress (detail), 2008. Courtesy the artist and Bandini Art Gallery.